**Reply to:** 2430

Date: July 8, 2016

## Dear Prospective Bidder:

The Forest Service will receive technical and price proposals (no public opening) at the Supervisor's Office, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, WA 98801 no later than 4:30 PM local time on or before 08/22/2016 for the Benzer Stewardship Contract. This contract is located in T32N. R23E, Sections 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36; T33N, R24E, Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25; T33N, R24E, Section 30; T34N R23E, Section 35, 36; W.M. Surveyed, Okanogan County, WA, Contract Form FS-2400-13 will be used. The termination date for this contract is October 31, 2019.

This Stewardship Contract includes the removal of timber and the completion of seven (7) restoration service type projects meant to improve ecological conditions within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Contractor will earn stewardship credits equal to the value of service work completed and accepted that will offset an equal amount of stumpage required to be paid by the contractor.

There are 16.15 miles of specified road reconstruction. A specified road construction cost of \$76,542 has been allowed in the appraisal for this work.

Measurement of the estimated quantities will be made after felling. The total estimated quantity on this contract is 61,709 TONS. The Forest Service encourages potential bidders to make their own inspection and estimate prior to bid submission. The Forest Service makes no representation, warranty, or guarantee of the accuracy of the following quantity estimates;

## Estimated Quantities and Minimum Acceptable Rates per Unit of Measure

							Required Deposits		
Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Estimated Quantities	Average DBH	Minimum Acceptable Bid Rates	Base Rates	Slash Disposal	Road Maintenance	
Douglas-fir and Other Coniferous Species	Sawtimber	Ton	46,835	10.5	\$3.52	\$1.51	\$0.84	\$0.31	
Ponderosa Pine	Sawtimber	Ton	14,874	11.5	\$3.52	\$1.51	\$0.84	\$0.31	
	TOTAL	Ton	61,709				\$51,835.56	\$19,129.79	





A bid guarantee is not required.

The minimum acceptable bid for advertised timber is \$3.52 per TON for biddable species.

Bidders are required to submit a Bid Price/Best Value proposal for this contract. Contract award will be based on a determination of which proposal constitutes the best value to the Government. Proposals will be submitted in two parts and will include a Technical and a Price Proposal. Details on what to include in the proposals are stated in the Solicitation. Award will be made to the bidder whose offer is both technically acceptable and whose technical/price relationship is the most advantageous to the Government. The Government may, when in its interest, reject any or all offers or waive any informality in bids received. A written award mailed, or otherwise furnished to the successful Offeror, shall be deemed to result in a binding contract without further action by either party.

PRE-OFFER MEETING: A pre-offer conference will be held for prospective offerors at 10:00 AM on August 3, 2016 at the Methow Valley Ranger District. The purpose of the meeting is to go through the Integrated Resource Timber Contract, explain the Best Value award process and requirements for both the price and technical proposals, and explain/review the requirements of the stewardship restoration projects.

Parties submitting a technical proposal are required to use the Region 6 Technical Proposal Template for the Integrated Resource Timber Contract in responding to included evaluation criteria.

Parties submitting a technical proposal are to use the Region 6 Technical Proposal Template for the Integrated Resource Timber Contract in responding to included evaluation criteria. Contractors can submit Alternate Technical Proposals for this project. However, the Contractor must submit a Technical Proposal that addresses the evaluation criteria as stated in addition to submitting the alternate proposal.

If you wish further information on this contract, the prospectus, bid form, and the restorative service projects, please write or call the Supervisor's Office, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, WA 98801 (509) 669-4044 or the Methow Valley Ranger District, 24 W. Chewuch Road, Winthrop, WA 98862 (509) 996-4000, or go to the forests' webpage at

"http://www.fs.usda.gov/resources/okawen/landmanagement/resourcemanagement".

Sincerely,

SUSAN FULLER Contracting Officer

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Enclosure